

FEATURED MUSICIAN Dianne McCully - Alto 2

I started singing with the chorus in December 2011, but my love for singing began much earlier with family sing-alongs on the way to church. In 2022, I took a brief break while my husband battled cancer. We moved from Tucson, AZ, to the area in 2007 after my husband retired.



Dianne McCully

I grew up in Isabel, SD, and worked as an accountant for 37 years, including as an office manager. My first job was at Glacier National Park, where I spent summers hiking—a passion of mine. After moving to Cedaredge, I worked remotely for my Arizona employer until retiring in 2016.

I've also sung with a college choral group, even performing in England, Scotland, and Wales during a 1977 choir tour for Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee.

I love the musicianship in the VSA and the joy of performing choral harmonies. Being part of this community has allowed me to form friendships that I deeply value.

Outside of music, I've enjoyed many adventures on my husband's motorcycle, including a tour of the Alps in 2001. In my free time, I love gardening, hiking, jigsaw puzzles, games, and cross-stitch projects.

Thank you!

Our sincere gratitude to our season and concert partners, annual promoters, advertisers, sponsors, underwriters, volunteers, and you—our audience—for supporting the musicians you know and the music you love!

Sing!

Feb. 22, 2025, 7pm

Feb. 23, 2025, 3pm

CONCERT PROGRAM

Troy Raper - Artistic Director and Orchestra Conductor

Katy Kristoffersen - Chorus Conductor

With special guest Mandolyn Raper - Lyric Soprano

Academic Festival Overture Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Requiem Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

III. Sanctus

V. Agnus Dei

With the VSA Chorus

Symphony No. 7 Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

II. Allegretto

With the VSA Chorus

INTERMISSION

Symphony No. 5 Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

I. Allegro con brio

From the Opera **The Barber of Seville** Gioachino Rossini (1792–1868)

Cavatina - Rosina's Aria

Mandolyn Raper - Soprano Soloist

From the Opera **Carmen** Georges Bizet (1838–1875)

Habanera

Mandolyn Raper - Soprano Soloist

From the Opera **Lakmé** Léo Delibes (1836–1891)

Duetto (Flower Duet)

Mandolyn Raper - Soprano

Bethany Ward - Soprano

From the Opera **La Traviata** Giuseppe Verdi (1813–1901)

Brindisi

Mandolyn Raper - Soprano

Nathan Howe - Tenor

From the Cantata **Carmina Burana** Carl Orff (1895–1982)

I. "O Fortuna"

With the VSA Chorus

FEATURED MUSICIAN Anne Koehler - Piano/Keyboard

Anne grew up in Columbus, NE, and started piano lessons at age seven, continuing through college. She earned her bachelor's in music from Grinnell College (IA) and a master's in music from Arizona State University. A long-time Arizona resident, Anne taught general and vocal music in Scottsdale, gave private piano lessons, and served as a church organist. She was also music director for a summer theater and vice president of the AZ State Music Teachers Association. Additionally, she coordinated the homebound program for Scottsdale schools and served on the Montrose Arts Council Board after moving to Montrose in 2008.



Anne Koehler

Anne and her husband, Tom, have four children and seven grandchildren. In her free time, she enjoys reading, playing bridge, doing yoga with her daughter, and volunteering at the Hope West Heirlooms store.

Fun fact: Anne played the lead in her high school's production of The Diary of Anne Frank.

Anne has been with the VSA since 2014, performing in the orchestra and singing in the chorus, where she also served as accompanist from 2014 to 2017. "I'm part of the VSA because I love to play and share music with others. It feels like being part of a musical family that supports each other and takes pride in our performances."

Check us out!

The VSA recently presented a quick, engaging overview of who we are and what we do at The Montrose Forum.

Each week, The Montrose Forum presents different speakers on current topics of interest to the Montrose community. Presentations are on Wednesdays at 8am in CMU Cascade Hall on the corner of South 3rd Street and Cascade Avenue in Montrose.

Scan the QR code to watch!



VSA BOARD VICE PRESIDENT Glen Justis

Glen Justis and his wife, Peggy, live in Montrose, CO. Originally from Missouri, they have lived in Colorado for a total of 15 years. Their sons, Ben and Will, also live in Colorado.



Glen Justis

Glen is a professional management consultant and co-owner of Experience on Demand, a St. Louis-based consulting firm. He specializes in business economics and finance and has worked with a wide variety of public, private, and not-for-profit organizations.

Glen currently serves as treasurer for Experience on Demand as well as the Montrose Rotary Club. He holds an engineering degree and an MBA, the latter of which he earned with honors.

Glen developed an early love of music through childhood piano lessons; high school marching, concert, and jazz bands; and church worship teams. His appreciation and support for music grew further as his son, Ben, chose music education as his profession. Ben has a doctorate in music composition and currently serves as chair of the music department at Western Colorado University in Gunnison.

Repertoire Underwriter

Each piece of sheet music costs between \$150 and \$750, and each concert requires 8-12 pieces. Our Concert Repertoire Underwriters generously donate \$1,000 per concert to help with this cost.

Thank you to
Vince & Maggie Farnsworth

for their generous donation to make our February *SING!* performances a reality, ensuring this festive and beautiful music could be shared with our community.

By joining their ranks, you can also make a meaningful contribution to the arts. Support the music you love and musicians you know by becoming a Concert Repertoire Underwriter!